

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 39, May 13, 1963 ]**

**PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF MATERIAL HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RELICS AND THE COMPILATION OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL DATA REGARDING BARRIOS, MUNICIPALITIES, CITIES AND PROVINCES OF THE PHILIPPINES**

WHEREAS, the recorded history and cultural development of the Philippines is far from complete;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 138, dated January 3, 1938, providing for the collection and compilation of historical data regarding barrios, municipalities, cities, and provinces of the Philippines, has not been fully implemented.

WHEREAS, a great wealth of historical and cultural materials is believed to be still in the possession of the people, some preserved only in the memory of our elders, and the rest, in manuscripts or other records which are not fully safeguard from destruction; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that these materials be gathered and preserved in as complete a form as possible for posterity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Diosdado Macapagal, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby direct that the information and materials hereinafter specified be secured by the provincial governor and city mayor of every province and city, and that the same be transmitted to the Director of the National Library and/or the Director of the National Museum not later than December thirty-one, nineteen hundred and sixty-three, for compilation and preservation.

The following rules shall govern the collection and transmission of the desired materials and information:

- a. Upon the promulgation of this executive order, each provincial governor shall immediately issue instructions to all municipal mayors under his jurisdiction and, in the case of a city, each city mayor shall issue such instructions to any city officials designated by him, enjoining said municipal mayors or city officials, as the case may be, to call together the old men in each and every barrio, sitio, or district in each municipality or city and obtain from them or from any documents or material evidence in their possession the entire history and cultural development of such community insofar as may be possible.
- b. All information data, and material evidence gathered shall be recorded as outlined in paragraph (i) hereof, preferably in the language or dialect of the locality, with a translation in English.
- c. All writings should be signed by the governor, for the history of the province; by the city mayor, for the history of the city; by the municipal

mayor, for the history of the town; and by the barrio lieutenant, for the history of the barrio.

d. The name of the family or families that have kept the records mentioned above should be indicated in order that due credit may be given to them.

e. Information should also be given regarding books, documents, or valuable cultural and historical objects on the Philippines owned in any community, in order that such books, documents, or objects as are desired may be obtained, if possible, for the National Library or the National Museum by purchase or gift.

f. The names of all Filipino authors of any community and the titles of all their productions, whether printed or in manuscripts, should be included. If the productions are in manuscript form, a statement should be given of the names of the persons in possession of the same.

g. All papers and articles pertaining to the barrios shall be delivered to the mayor of the town, who shall forward the same, together with the data pertaining to his municipality, to the governor of the province. All the original documents and translations if any, shall be forwarded by the provincial governor in a carefully made and protected package to the Director of the National Library, Manila, and all materials of historical and cultural value shall be sent to the Director, National Museum, Manila. Each package shall be marked "Historical Documents." The same procedure shall be followed by the city mayor in forwarding all materials, papers, and documents pertaining to the city either to the Director of the National Library or to the Director of National Museum, as the case may be.

h. Provincial governments which have already complied with the requirements of Executive Order No. 133 shall give information only to update the historical data required.

i. The information desired is as follows:

### ***The Barrio***

1. Present official name of the barrio.
2. Native name of the barrio with its meaning; changes in the name of the barrio, if any, and the derivation of the name; and the names of the sitios included within the jurisdiction of the barrio.
3. Date of establishment of the barrio.
4. Original families of the barrio.
5. List of the barrio lieutenants from the earliest time to date.
6. Story of old barrios or sitios that are now depopulated.
7. Traditions, legends, folk tales, beliefs, proverbs, sayings, superstitions, puzzles, songs, nursery hymns, etc.